





Photo credit: Peter Giffney

ANTIETAM NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD

Sharpsburg, Maryland

KEY WORDS

AMERICAN CIVIL WAR
CONFEDERATE
UNION
SLAVERY
EMANCIPATION PROCLAMATION

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The Battle of Antietam was fought on September 17, 1862. It was the worst one-day battle during the American Civil War. About 40,000 Southerners fought 87,000 Northern soldiers that day in the little town of Sharpsburg, Maryland. By the time the fighting ended, 23,000 people had been killed, wounded or were missing.

Neither side won the battle; it was a draw. The Confederate and Union armies were both badly hurt. However, because Confederate General Robert E. Lee's army did not actually win the Battle of Antietam, several important things happened. England delayed recognizing the South as a separate country and President Abraham Lincoln decided to issue the Emancipation Proclamation. On January 1, 1863, Lincoln declared all the slaves in the Confederate states free. The Emancipation Proclamation gave people two reasons to fight: to preserve the Union and end slavery.

ANTIETAM NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD was established in 1890. Besides preserving the battlefield, the park protects archeological artifacts, historic buildings, the landscape

"In the time that I am writing, every stalk of corn in the northern and greater part of the field was cut as closely as could have been done with a knife, and the slain lay in rows precisely as they had stood in their ranks a few moments before. It was never my fortune to witness a more bloody, dismal battlefield."

— Maj. Gen. Joseph Hooker,
Commander I Corps, Army of the
Potomac

(forests, meadows and streams), and a cemetery. It commemorates those who fought and died in this important battle.

About 200,000 people visit Antietam National Battlefield each year.



Photo credit: National Park Service, Ted Davis

CUYAHOGA VALLEY NATIONAL RECREATION AREA

Brecksville, Ohio

KEY WORDS

GLACIERS
CANAL
TRANSPORTATION
HABITAT
HISTORIC
URBAN

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Over thousands of years, glaciers and streams carved out the Cuyahoga River Valley. The Cuyahoga River got its name from the Indian word meaning crooked. It is the dominant feature of the valley. For hundreds of years, the river and its valley have provided transportation and livelihood for people, as well as habitat for a wide variety of animals and plants. Forests, rolling farmlands, and freshwater ponds dot the landscape. Pastures and meadows lead to wooded hills. The Ohio & Erie Canal, a rail-road and highways all blend into the river valley scene.



Photo credit: National Park Service, Joe Adams

CUYAHOGA VALLEY NATIONAL RECREATION AREA was established in 1975, to preserve 33,000 acres of valley along 22 miles of the Cuyahoga River. The park stretches between the cities of Cleveland and Akron, Ohio. It protects more than 60 historic sites and many natural areas. Approximately 20 miles of the historic Ohio & Erie Canal run along the Cuyahoga River through the park. The

"I have admired the rugged fiords of Norway and the bald peaks of Yosemite. But I gain strength each day at home from the beauty of our own Cuyahoga Valley."

— James Snowden Jackson

Ohio & Erie Canal Towpath Trail provides a place for people to walk, ride bikes and cross-country ski. The park offers millions of urban Americans a place to play, exercise, learn about nature, study history, camp, listen to music, or just relax away from the city.

Over 3,400,000 people visit Cuyahoga Valley National Recreation Area each year.







Photo credit: National Park Service, Williams

EVERGLADES NATIONAL PARK

South Florida

KEY WORDS

CONSERVATIONIST
ECOSYSTEM
WETLAND
ENDANGERED SPECIES
THREATENED SPECIES
INTERNATIONAL BIOSPHERE
RESERVE
WORLD HERITAGE SITE
IMPACT
PRESERVE

This National Park Discovery Kit, developed in cooperation with the National Park Service, is made available by the National Park Foundation through generous funding by Target and The Eureka Company.

Marjory Stoneman Douglas, a conservationist in the 1940s, called the Everglades a "river of grass." This park has more than a million acres, most of which are covered with water. The Everglades is home to thousands of different kinds of plants and animals, including alligators, endangered Florida panthers, and colorful birds. This ecosystem is so important to the earth's environment that it has been named an International Biosphere Reserve and World Heritage Site.

Unfortunately, the Everglades is in danger. There are more than 16 endangered species and many other threatened species living in the park. Lots and lots of people live upstream from the Everglades. They have a big impact on the amount of water that gets into the 'Glades and how clean the water is. Coastal cities in south Florida compete with the wetlands for water. All of these factors affect the Everglades' fragile ecosystem.



Photo: National Park Service, Lagna

EVERGLADES NATIONAL PARK was established in 1947, to help save the ecosystem of the Everglades. The law that Congress passed to establish the park says that the area "shall be permanently reserved as wilderness." Even though the area is preserved, it still faces major threats from pollution and water usage outside the park.

**"The Everglades is a test.
If we pass it, we get to keep
the planet."**

— Marjory Stoneman Douglas, conservationist

Over 1,000,000 people visit Everglades National Park each year.



Photo credit: Ed Matthews

FORT FREDERICA NATIONAL MONUMENT

St. Simons Island, Georgia

KEY WORDS

SETTLEMENT
BRITISH
COLONIES
SPAIN
COMMEMORATE
ARCHEOLOGY

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**"Conservation of archeological
remains isn't a luxury, it's a require-
ment if we ever hope to know who
we are, where we came from, and
how we got here."**

— Nick Honer camp, Frederica
archeologist

Frederica was one of the most important early settlements in Georgia. The fort was built in 1736, just four years after the British colony of Georgia was founded. At that time, Spain occupied Florida. England built Fort Frederica to defend Georgia and the rest of the British colonies from Spanish invasion. In 1742, Spain attacked the colonies. Frederica was the headquarters for the British soldiers who defended the colonies and defeated the Spanish.

FORT FREDERICA NATIONAL MONUMENT

was established on August 30, 1945. The park commemorates the settlement's role in protecting the British colonies from Spanish attack. Today, Fort Frederica is an archeological site. The remains of the town and fort are preserved, not rebuilt. This is a park where the story of the people and the place is told, encouraging people to use their imaginations as they would in reading a book.

Fort Frederica receives about 350,000 visitors each year.



FISHING BRIDGE· LAKE·BRIDGE BAY

YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK



Photo credit: National Park Service



Photo credit: National Park Service
Frederick Douglass National Historic Site



Photo credit: National Park Service

FISHING BRIDGE· LAKE·BRIDGE BAY YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK

SIGNIFICANT FEATURES

YELLOWSTONE LAKE
YELLOWSTONE RIVER

This National Park Discovery Kit, developed in cooperation with the National Park Service, is made available by the National Park Foundation through generous funding by Target and The Eureka Company.



Photo credit: National Park Service

Yellowstone Lake is 20 miles long and 14 miles wide, with a maximum depth of 390 feet.

The Yellowstone River ("Mi tsi a-da-zi" or "Rock Yellow River" in Minnetaree Sioux), flows northbound through the spectacular Grand Canyon of the Yellowstone over falls and through rapids and pools from the Fishing Bridge area. It is still eroding and shaping the landscape as it has for thousands of years.

The beautiful, salmon-like Yellowstone cutthroat trout evolved specifically in this cold, clear environment. Named for the brilliant red slash marks below its gills, the cutthroat largely feeds on insects and plankton. In the lake, these foods are mainly found in shallow water where bears, otters, eagles, osprey, and pelicans find catching the fish fairly easy. To spawn, cutthroat trout require well-oxygenated gravel. They find it abundantly in the Yellowstone River.

Visitors to Yellowstone still enjoy fishing for cutthroat. Unfortunately the desire to increase fishing opportunities in this high-altitude lake introduced a problem. The Mackinaw, or lake

trout is a prized sportfish on the East Coast. It was introduced in several park lakes in the 1890s, but until recently it had never been found in Yellowstone Lake. Several problems arise when "lakers" exist with cutthroat. Lake trout grow to large sizes and feed on the smaller cutthroat. Lakers spend their entire lives in deep water. This makes them less available to predators. Since they do not enter the Yellowstone River to spawn, predators gathering to intercept the summer spawning cutthroat find fewer and fewer fish to eat. If this trend continues, populations of these predators may decrease.

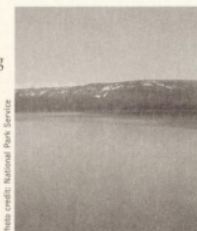


Photo credit: National Park Service

The Lake District includes some of the best remaining grizzly bear habitat in the lower 48 states. The cutthroat spawning creeks of the area play a critical role in the survival of the grizzly bear in the wild. The marshy wetlands of the **LAKE/FISHING BRIDGE/BRIDGE BAY** area make it one of the most reliable places in the park to observe moose during the summer. Other wildlife include bison, otters, American white pelicans, bald eagles and osprey.



Photo credit: National Park Service, Frederick Douglass National Historic Site

FREDERICK DOUGLASS NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE

Washington, D.C.

KEY WORDS

ABOLITIONIST
SLAVERY
PLANTATION
BALTIMORE
PRESERVE
COMMEMORATE

ACHIEVEMENTS
MINISTER
AND GENERAL
CONSUL TO
HAITI
HISTORIC

"Education means emancipation. It means light and liberty. It means the uplifting of the soul of man into the glorious light of truth, the only light by which men can be free. To deny education to any people is one of the greatest crimes against human nature. It is to deny them the means of freedom and the rightful pursuit of happiness, and to defeat the very end of their being. They can neither honor themselves, nor their Creator."

— Frederick Douglass

Frederick Douglass was an important leader of the abolitionist (anti-slavery) movement. He was born a slave on a Maryland plantation. When he was young he was sent to Baltimore to be a house servant. There Douglass was briefly exposed to books and became determined to learn to read. He never attended school, but he taught himself to read and write. Douglass escaped from slavery at age 20 and went on to work in the abolitionist movement. He rose to become an advisor to four presidents. Douglass edited several newspapers. He published three books and served as a crusader for African American and women's rights. He also held several

government positions including Minister and General Consul to Haiti.

After Frederick Douglass died, his wife began an effort to preserve their Washington, D.C., home, called Cedar Hill. She wanted the home to commemorate her late husband's achievements. It was maintained by the Frederick Douglass Memorial and Historical Association until it became a part of the National Park Service in 1962. In 1986, the home was named a National Historic Site and listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

About 64,000 people visit **FREDERICK DOUGLASS NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE** each year.



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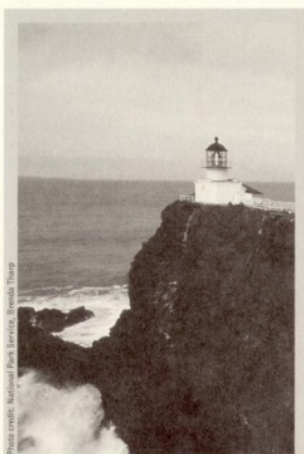


Photo credit: National Park Service, Brenda Thompson

GOLDEN GATE NATIONAL RECREATION AREA

San Francisco, California

KEY WORDS

PACIFIC OCEAN
SAN FRANCISCO BAY
HISTORIC
URBAN DEVELOPMENT
REDWOOD FORESTS
MARSHES
NATURAL AND
CULTURAL RESOURCES

This National Park Discovery Kit, developed in cooperation with the National Park Service, is made available by the National Park Foundation through generous funding by Target and The Eureka Company.

"A junior ranger is a person that cares and respects the environment, people, animals, plants and living things in nature."

— Fourth grade participant in the Junior Ranger Program

GOLDEN GATE NATIONAL RECREATION AREA

is a park that begins where the Pacific Ocean meets San Francisco Bay. The park surrounds the narrow entrance to the city's harbor at the Golden Gate Bridge. The park blends natural beauty with historic sites and urban development. To the north and south of the Golden Gate Bridge, the recreation area follows the Pacific shoreline. Redwood forests, beaches, grassy hillsides, marshes and rocky shoreline provide a natural retreat from the city.

The park is a home for many animals. Hawks, deer and seabirds are often seen, and sometimes bobcats and whales. The park also preserves historic ships, forts and many other historic buildings. These places tell the stories of San Francisco Bay area history.



Photo credit: National Park Service

Golden Gate National Recreation Area was established in 1972, because many people wanted to preserve it. The military decided that much of the land was no longer

needed to defend the country. That is when people asked Congress to turn the area into a park instead of letting it be developed. They wanted to preserve open space, something hard to find in urban areas. They also wanted to protect the natural and cultural resources of the area for people to learn from and enjoy.

About 13,000,000 people visit Golden Gate National Recreation Area each year.



Photo credit: National Park Service

GRANT- WEST THUMB YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK

SIGNIFICANT FEATURES

WEST THUMB GEYSER BASIN
YELLOWSTONE LAKE

Yellowstone Lake is the largest natural fresh-water lake in the United States above 7,000 feet. It is one of the largest such lakes in the world. Members of the 1870 Washburn party noted that Yellowstone Lake was shaped like "a human hand with the fingers extended and spread apart as much as possible," and with the large west bay representing the thumb.

On July 12, 1988, a small fire started near the Falls River in the southeastern corner of the park. For many weeks, the fire grew slightly. As drought conditions worsened, many new fires started and spread throughout the park. On August 20, the winds picked up again. This day would later become known as "Black Saturday," because more acres burned on this day alone than in the entire history of Yellowstone. Firefighters were unable to stop these unprecedented wildfires.

While the fires shocked the nation and the world, scientists now know that a fire of this magnitude will burn through a lodgepole pine forest like Yellowstone's on an average of once every 300 years. Some of the pine cones need the intense heat of fire to open the cones and drop the seeds for the next generation of forests. While fire is often difficult for people to understand, it is as important for the lodgepole forests and as necessary as other natural processes like rain and snow, death and rebirth.

The **WEST THUMB GEYSER BASIN**, including Potts Basin to the north, is unique in that it is the largest geyser basin to sit on the shore of Yellowstone Lake. The West Thumb of Yellowstone Lake was formed by a large volcanic explosion that occurred approximately 150,000 years ago. The resulting collapsed volcano, called a caldera ("boiling pot" or caldron), later filled with water and formed an extension of Yellowstone Lake. West Thumb is a caldera within a caldera.

The development of **GRANT**, south of the geyser basin was named after President Ulysses S. Grant. He signed the bill establishing Yellowstone National Park on March 1, 1872.



Photo credit: National Park Service

The park district hosts a variety of wildlife throughout the year. Grizzly and black bears are common during the trout spawning season (May and June). Bull bison live around the basin year-round. Elk, mule

deer, moose, river otters, coyotes, ravens, eagles, osprey, trumpeter swans, and other water birds can also be spotted.

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Photo credit: National Park Service



Photo credit: The Andrew J. Rosen Collection, The Oakland Museum of California



Photo credit: National Park Service

HAWAII VOLCANOES

NATIONAL PARK

Hawaii

KEY WORDS

VOLCANO	MOUNT EVEREST
ERUPT	MOLTEN
GEOLOGY	LAVA
KILAUEA	PACIFIC OCEAN
MAUNA LOA	ECOSYSTEM

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When a volcano erupts, it reminds us that Earth is always changing. Our planet's geologic processes are beyond human control. Volcanoes are land builders. They created the Hawaiian Island chain. Kilauea and Mauna Loa are two of the world's most active volcanoes. They are still adding land to the island of Hawaii. Mauna Loa is the most massive mountain on Earth. Measured from its base on the sea floor, it rises 30,000 feet. That makes it more than 1,000 feet higher than Mount Everest.

"Here was room for the imagination to work."

— Mark Twain on seeing Kilauea in 1866

Kilauea and Mauna Loa do not explode when they erupt unlike many volcanoes on the continents. Instead, these volcanoes make fiery fountains and rivers of molten lava. The flows, added layer upon layer, have produced a volcanic landscape that has become a foundation for life. Hundreds of different kinds of plants and animals have found their way across the Pacific Ocean on wind, water, and the wings of birds. A few survived and adapted to their new island home. When human beings—first Polynesians,



Photo credit: Mark Kane

then Europeans—arrived by boat, they brought many more plants and animals with them and drastically changed the evolving ecosystem on the Hawaiian Islands.

HAWAII VOLCANOES NATIONAL PARK was established in 1916, to preserve the natural setting of Kilauea and Mauna Loa. The park is a refuge for the island's native plants and animals. It is also a link to the island's human past. Scientists conduct research at the Hawaiian Volcano Observatory. They have learned a lot about the birth of the Hawaiian Islands and the beginnings of planet Earth.

About 2,000,000 people visit Hawaii Volcanoes National Park each year.



Photo credit: National Park Service

HOMESTEAD

NATIONAL MONUMENT OF AMERICA

Beatrice, Nebraska

KEY WORDS

PRESIDENT ABRAHAM LINCOLN
HOMESTEAD ACT
MISSISSIPPI RIVER
TALLGRASS PRAIRIE
ECOSYSTEM

This National Park Discovery Kit, developed in cooperation with the National Park Service, is made available by the National Park Foundation through generous funding by Target and The Eureka Company.

On May 20, 1862, President Abraham Lincoln signed the Homestead Act. This law allowed Americans to settle on land that belonged to the federal government west of the Mississippi River. To own the land, a homesteader had to build a house, live on the land, and farm it for five years. This law made it possible for people to own land who had not been allowed to in the past. Any man or woman who was head of a household could own land. Civil War veterans, immigrants, widows, single women, African Americans and other determined settlers could claim 160 acres of "free" land. By 1935, most of the land was claimed. At that time, the few remaining areas were withdrawn from homesteading, except for land still unsettled in Alaska.

HOMESTEAD NATIONAL MONUMENT OF AMERICA

was established in 1936, to commemorate the pioneers who settled the West. The park contains 160 acres of prairie and woodland. The area was originally claimed by Daniel Freeman, one of the first homesteaders in the nation. The park also has a one-room schoolhouse that was used for 95 years. Part of the land that the park

"We came here to this beautiful country, in those early days, young, strong, healthy, filled with hope, energy and ambition.... I do not know how large a bank account some of the old settlers may have today. I do not care. They will never be as rich as I felt when I first settled on my homestead. I remember the time I did not have the money to buy a postage stamp. I remember the hard winter, the drought of 1884. The many obstacles to overcome. We came to win the battle, and we did.... We were empire builders."

— An early homesteader

protects is restored tallgrass prairie. This fragile ecosystem is home to many different kinds of animals and plants.

About 32,000 people visit Homestead National Monument of America each year.







Photo credit: National Park Service

JEFFERSON NATIONAL EXPANSION MEMORIAL

St. Louis, Missouri

KEY WORDS

ATLANTIC OCEAN
MISSISSIPPI RIVER
FRANCE
PRESIDENT THOMAS JEFFERSON
LOUISIANA PURCHASE
LEWIS AND CLARK
EXPEDITION
WESTWARD EXPANSION
DRED SCOTT DECISION
SUPREME COURT
MEMORIAL
COMMEMORATE

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In 1800, the United States stretched from the Atlantic Ocean to the Mississippi River. Most of the land west of the river belonged to France. President Thomas Jefferson wanted Americans to be able to use the Mississippi River for transporting goods. Jefferson bought the land, called the Louisiana Territory, from France. The Louisiana Purchase doubled the size of the United States. Jefferson then sent two men, Meriwether Lewis and William Clark, to lead an expedition to explore the newly purchased land.

JEFFERSON NATIONAL EXPANSION

MEMORIAL was established in 1935, to commemorate this westward expansion of the United States. It is a memorial to Thomas Jefferson, the Louisiana Purchase, and the people who settled the American West. The park has several special features. The Gateway Arch is a 630-foot-high monument symbolizing the beginning of westward expansion. It is made of stainless steel and has a tram system that takes visitors to an observation area at the top. The park is also home to a large museum

on westward expansion. The Old Courthouse was the site of one of the most influential court cases ever tried. Dred Scott, a slave, sued for his freedom in 1846. The case was eventually appealed to the U.S. Supreme Court. He lost. The Dred Scott Decision was one of the factors that led to the American Civil War.

"The Gateway Arch looks like a giant striding into the future."

— Person jogging on the grounds at Jefferson National Expansion Memorial

About 4,500,000 people visit the Jefferson National Expansion Memorial each year.



Photo credit: James Maguire

LOWELL NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK

Lowell, Massachusetts

KEY WORDS

INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION
TEXTILE
MACHINERY
PRESERVE
CULTURAL HERITAGE
MILL
CANAL
COMMEMORATE

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Lowell, Massachusetts, was America's first large-scale planned industrial community. It became a city in 1826. Lowell was known for the large amounts of cloth produced in its mills. It was also known for its workers. In the middle 1800s, they were mostly young farm women who came to the city seeking a better life. Lowell's mills helped change American life. They allowed large amounts of work to get done quickly using machines. This marked the beginning of the American Industrial Revolution.

LOWELL NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK was established in 1978. It preserves the cultural heritage of Lowell, America's most significant planned industrial city. The park tells the story of the city's historic mill buildings, canal system, and worker's housing. Lowell National Historical Park commemorates the important changes that the Industrial Revolution brought to American life.

About 500,000 people visit Lowell National Historical Park each year.



Photo credit: Gale Primmer

"A marvelous production...informative and inspiring...EVERY American should visit here."

— Park visitor





Photo credit: Bob Caters



Photo credit: National Park Service



Photo credit: Mark E. Gibson

MAMMOTH CAVE NATIONAL PARK

Mammoth Cave, Kentucky

KEY WORDS

PREHISTORIC	WAR OF 1812
IMAGINATION	SLAVES
COURAGE	NITRATE
ANCIENT	GUNPOWDER
ARTIFACT	SINKHOLE

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Mammoth Cave is more than 350 miles long—the longest cave in the world. The area has many limestone caves, underground rivers, springs, and sinkholes. Water has been the guiding force in the creation of this landscape and of the cave itself. Many years ago, prehistoric Indians lit torches to explore the cave. Since then, Mammoth has inspired the imagination, tested the courage, and awakened the senses of all its visitors. Ancient artifacts and human remains found



Photo credit: Peter Gidley



Photo credit: Peter Gidley

in Mammoth show us that people have been exploring the cave for at least 4,000 years. During the War of 1812 slaves mined nitrate from the cave. Nitrate is an ingredient used to make gunpowder.

MAMMOTH CAVE NATIONAL PARK was established in 1941, to preserve the cave's natural wonders, its maze of passages, caverns, underground rivers, and unusual animals. About 2,000,000 people visit Mammoth Cave National Park each year.



Photo credit: Peter Gidley

"No ray of light but the glimmer of our lamps; no sound but the echo of our own steps; nothing but darkness, silence, immensity."

— Early visitor to Mammoth Cave



Photo credit: National Park Service

MAMMOTH- HOT SPRINGS

YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK

SIGNIFICANT FEATURES

MAMMOTH TERRACES
OBSIDIAN CLIFF
FORT YELLOWSTONE
NORTHERN RANGE

MAMMOTH HOT SPRINGS is the site of the park's headquarters and administrative offices. It also provides a variety of services including a Visitor Center, hotel, cabins, store, campground, and picnic areas. The Mammoth area and the road between Mammoth and the Northeast Entrance are the only areas in the park accessible by automobile in the winter.

Hot springs are pools filled with hot water that do not erupt. Visitors are sometimes disappointed when a favorite spring appears to have died. The location of springs and the rate of flow change daily, but the overall volume of water discharged by all of the springs fluctuates little.

The hot water in the spring carries minerals from underground and deposits them on the surface in beautiful and strange formations. Here terraces are formed of a rock called travertine. The travertine is deposited as a white mineral, but much of the beauty of the terraces is found in the multitude of colors. The oranges, yellows, greens, and



Photo credit: National Park Service

browns are created by the great number of tiny living bacteria and algae. The arrangement of these colors is caused by environmental factors such as heat, sunlight, and carbon dioxide concentrations.

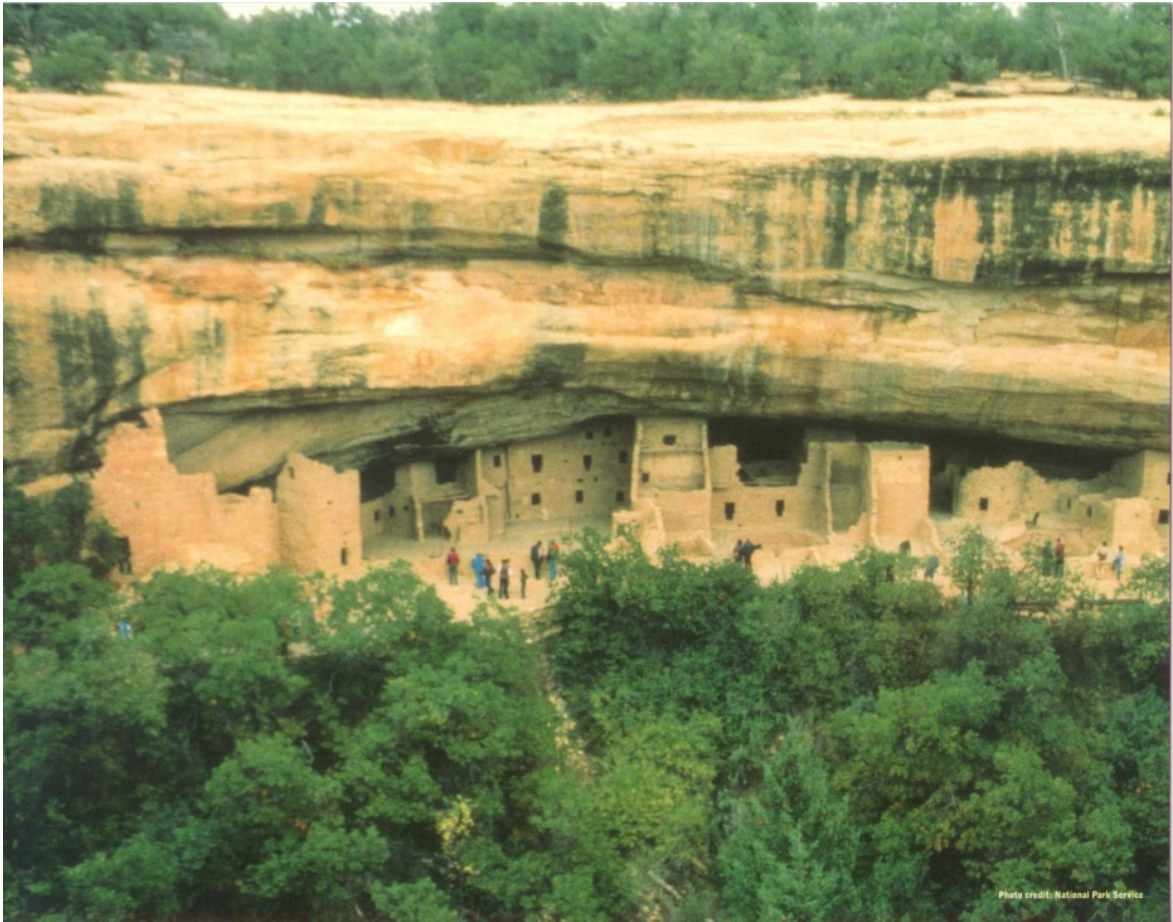
In 1886 the U.S. Army (Cavalry) picked Mammoth Hot Springs as the site for Fort Yellowstone. The historic Fort now serves as the park's headquarters.



Photo credit: National Park Service

Because of the diverse landscape, a wide variety of vegetation and wildlife can be found in the Mammoth District. Elk, pronghorn, bighorn sheep, osprey, moose, gray wolves, bald eagles, and an occasional bison, coyote, and badger can be seen. The grasslands surrounding Gardiner, Montana is the only place in the park to try to catch a glimpse of the prairie rattlesnake. The bull snake and the red fox also can be seen throughout the Mammoth Terraces. Some rare visitors to this area are the mountain lion, black bear, and grizzly bear.

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MESA VERDE NATIONAL PARK

Colorado

KEY WORDS

MESA	ANCIENT
DESCENDANTS	ARCHEOLOGIST
ELABORATE	REMNANT
CANYON	CLIFF
ANCESTRAL PUEBLOANS	DWELLING

This National Park Discovery Kit, developed in cooperation with the National Park Service, is made available by the National Park Foundation through generous funding by Target and The Eureka Company.

About 1,400 years ago a group of American Indians lived in an area called the Four Corners. This is where Colorado, Arizona, Utah, and New Mexico come together. These Indians made Mesa Verde their home. Their descendants lived at Mesa Verde for more than 700 years. They built elaborate stone cities in the canyon walls. In the late 1200s they left their homes and moved away. We call these people the Ancestral Puebloans. Anasazi is a Navajo word that means "the ancient ones." For the past 100 years archeologists have been studying the life of these people, but we still know very little about them.



"Mesa Verde National Park is the key to the fascinating puzzle of the cultures whose ruins are preserved in the Southwestern monuments."

— Freeman Tilden

culture. The park protects about 600 cliff dwellings and has some 4,000 archeological sites.

About 725,000 people visit Mesa Verde National Park each year.



MESA VERDE NATIONAL PARK was established in 1906. The park preserves a remnant of the thousand-year-old Ancestral Puebloan



NORRIS-MADISON YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK

SIGNIFICANT FEATURES

STEAMBOAT GEYSER
ECHINUS GEYSER
PORCELAIN BASIN
MUSEUM OF THE
NATIONAL PARK RANGER
(NORRIS)
BIRTHPLACE OF THE
NATIONAL PARK IDEA

The **NORRIS/MADISON** region includes the hottest, oldest, and most dynamic of Yellowstone's thermal areas. The Norris Geyser Basin Museum, the Museum of the National Park Ranger, and the Madison Museum are also located here. The Museum of the National Park Ranger includes exhibits about the development of the park ranger profession.

The highest temperature yet recorded in any geothermal area in Yellowstone was measured in a scientific drill hole at Norris: 459°F (237°C) just 1,097 feet (326m) below the surface! There are very few thermal features at Norris under the boiling point (199°F) at this elevation. Norris shows evidence of having had thermal features for at least 115,000 years.



Other noteworthy features include the Firehole River. This area is world famous among anglers for its pristine beauty and healthy brown, brook and rainbow trout. National Park Mountain is part of the lava flows that encircle the Madison Junction area. The Madison River was named by the explorers Lewis and Clark in honor of Secretary of State, James Madison.

The major wildlife component of this area is elk. Black and grizzly bears, moose and bison may also be spotted. The thermal areas are known for their abundant and unusual life forms including many species of bacteria, algae and insects. Norris is one of the few areas in Yellowstone with lizards. The sagebrush lizard can survive here because of the influence of thermal activity. It is seen only occasionally on the public trails. Plants



include lodgepole pine, elk sedge, grouse whortleberry or pine grass, glacier lily, fireweed, bog orchid and mountain laurel.

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OLD FAITHFUL

YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK



Photo credit: National Park Service



OLD FAITHFUL YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK

SIGNIFICANT FEATURES

UPPER GEYSER BASIN
OLD FAITHFUL INN
MIDWAY GEYSER BASIN
LOWER GEYSER BASIN
FOUNTAIN PAINT POT

This National Park Discovery Kit, developed in cooperation with the National Park Service, is made available by the National Park Foundation through generous funding by Target and The Eureka Company.

Millions of visitors journey from around the world to view this geologic wonder. Many are surprised to discover **OLD FAITHFUL** is only one of more than 10,000 thermal features in the park. The number and variety of Yellowstone's thermal splendors are unmatched anywhere in the world.

Old Faithful is located in the Upper Geyser basin. It is one of 150 geysers within one square mile. This is more than any other location in the park or the world. Explorers from Yellowstone's Washburn Expedition selected names for the geysers. The names illustrate what they saw. They include Beehive, Castle, Giant, Grotto, Giantess, Grand, and Riverside.

They named one geyser Old Faithful, because it erupted nine times in less than two days. Since its naming and who knows for how long before, this geyser has been fairly predictable. The average interval between eruptions varied from 64.8 minutes (1948-73) to 79 minutes (1995). Between 18 and 22 eruptions still occur every 24 hours. Remember, these are just averages. The length between eruptions may vary from 45 to 100 minutes.

Other noteworthy features include the Old Faithful Inn. The inn was built in the early 1900s by architect Robert C Reamer.

Its appearance mimics the surrounding environment. This style later was used in many other national parks. In recognition of its historical and architectural significance, the Secretary of the Interior designated the Old Faithful Inn as a National Historic Landmark in 1987.

Wildlife spotted in this area include bison, elk, moose, deer, gray wolves (reintroduced in this area in January 1996), boreal toads, chorus and spotted frogs, dragonflies, belted kingfishers, great blue herons, aquatic garter snakes, trumpeter swans, and Canada geese, just to name a few. Lodgepole pine dominate the landscape with Engelmann spruce and subalpine fir at higher elevations.

